



GROCERY MANUFACTURERS OF AMERICA

MAKERS OF THE WORLD'S FAVORITE BRANDS OF
FOOD, BEVERAGES, AND CONSUMER PRODUCTS

1010 WISCONSIN AVE., NW
NINTH FLOOR
WASHINGTON, DC 20007
PHONE (202) 337-9400
FAX (202) 337-4508
www.gma-brands.com

February 27, 2003

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
Room 1061
5630 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20852

Re: GMA Citizen Petition to Apply the Pearson Decision to Conventional Food

On April 27, 2000, the Grocery Manufacturers of America (GMA) submitted a Citizen Petition to request that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) apply the First Amendment principles enunciated in Pearson v. Shalala to all food, not just to dietary supplements. The action announced by FDA on December 18, 2002¹ and the Guidance that is the subject of the notice published in the Federal Register on December 20, 2002² have now reversed the earlier FDA position on this matter and have granted the action requested in the GMA Citizen Petition. Accordingly, GMA is hereby withdrawing this Citizen Petition from further FDA consideration.

Sincerely yours,

James H. Skiles
Vice President, General Counsel

00N-0598

WDL 1

¹ "FDA Announces Initiative to Provide Better Health Information for Consumers," FDA News No. P02-54 (December 18, 2002).

² 67 Fed. Reg. 78002 (December 20, 2002).